

Freddie Woodson, Deputy Superintendent
District/School Operations

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH EXCELSIOR ACADEMIES, INC., ON BEHALF OF EXCELSIOR CHARTER ACADEMY

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: GENERAL OPERATIONS

Section 1002.33(7), Florida Statutes, Charter Schools, requires that the major issues involved in the operation of charter schools be considered in advance and written into a charter school contractual agreement, between the charter school and the sponsor, following a public hearing to ensure community input.

On December 13, 2006, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approved a charter school application submitted for Excelsior Language Academy Charter School "B" and authorized the Superintendent of Schools to negotiate a charter school contractual agreement with the applicant for a term of five years, commencing the 2007-2008 school year. However, pursuant to Section 7(f) of School Board Rule 6Gx13- 6A-1.47, Charter Schools (K-12), the charter school requested to extend contract negotiations and defer the opening of school until the 2009-2010 school year due to difficulties in obtaining a feasible facility. Furthermore, subsequent to approval, the school requested to change its name to Excelsior Charter Academy (Excelsior).

Excelsior will be located at 3490 NW 191 Street, Miami Gardens, Florida 33056. This proposed location is the former site of Saint Monica Catholic School, a catholic private school owned by the Archdiocese of Miami scheduled for closure. Excelsior will serve a maximum of 450 students in kindergarten through grade eight, commencing with the 2009-2010 school year. The term of the contract shall be for five years, ending on June 30, 2012, as a deferral to open was granted for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 school years.

The Governing Board of the charter school is comprised of the following members: Ms. Claudia Trilles, Director, Kids Corner, LLC; Ms. Yoselin Guerra Delgado, Educator, North Hialeah Elementary; Ms. Dulce More, Former Educator/Realtor; Ms. Maydelin M. Beceiro, Educator, Doral Academy. This is the same governing board for Excelsior Language Academy of Hialeah.

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The Charter School Contract Review Committee met on April 28, 2009, and by a majority vote made a recommendation for approval of the charter school contractual agreement with Excelsior Academies, Inc., on behalf of Excelsior Charter Academy.

Copies of the charter school contractual agreement will be transmitted to the School Board Members under separate cover and will be available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and in the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 NE Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve the charter school contractual agreement with Excelsior Academies, Inc., on behalf of Excelsior Charter Academy for a term of five years, commencing with the 2009-2010 school year and ending on June 30, 2012.

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